

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- Sub  
AI
- 000270" 55T83460
- 1 1. A method for synchronizing an event on a plurality of client apparatuses,  
2 comprising the steps of:  
3 (a) connecting a plurality of client apparatuses via a network;  
4 (b) embedding an application program on a site on the network;  
5 (c) requesting information from a server on the network utilizing the application  
6 program, wherein the information relates to an event to be played back  
7 simultaneously on the client apparatuses; and  
8 (d) receiving a script for displaying the information.
  - 1 2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the application program is further  
2 adapted to send a request to retrieve commands from the server for use with a  
3 playback device of one of the client apparatuses.
  - 1 3. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the playback device includes a  
2 digital video disc (DVD) player.
  - 1 4. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the commands are adapted to  
2 playback the event on the playback device simultaneous with the playback of  
3 the event on the remaining client apparatuses.
  - 1 5. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the command includes a start time  
2 when the playback of the event is to begin on each of the client apparatuses.
  - 1 6. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein application program is a JAVA  
2 applet and the script is JavaScript.
  - 1 7. A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for  
2 synchronizing an event on a plurality of client apparatuses, comprising:

- 3 (a) a code segment for connecting a plurality of client apparatuses via a network;  
4 (b) a code segment for embedding an application program on a site on the  
5 network;  
6 (c) a code segment for requesting information from a server on the network  
7 utilizing the application program, wherein the information relates to an event  
8 to be played back simultaneously on the client apparatuses; and  
9 (d) a code segment for receiving a script for displaying the information.

1 8. A computer program as recited in claim 7, wherein the application program  
2 is further adapted to send a request to retrieve commands from the server for  
3 use with a playback device of one of the client apparatuses.

1 9. A computer program as recited in claim 8, wherein the playback device  
2 includes a digital video disc (DVD) player.

1 10. A computer program as recited in claim 8, wherein the commands are  
2 adapted to playback the event on the playback device simultaneous with the  
3 playback of the event on the remaining client apparatuses.

1 11. A computer program as recited in claim 8, wherein the command includes a  
2 start time when the playback of the event is to begin on each of the client  
3 apparatuses.

1 12. A computer program as recited in claim 7, wherein application program is a  
2 JAVA applet and the script is JAVAscript.

1 13. A system for synchronizing an event on a plurality of client apparatuses,  
2 comprising:

- 3 (a) logic for connecting a plurality of client apparatuses via a network;  
4 (b) logic for embedding an application program on a site on the network;

000270" 55131612

- 5 (c) logic for requesting information from a server on the network utilizing the  
6 application program, wherein the information relates to an event to be played  
7 back simultaneously on the client apparatuses; and  
8 (d) logic for receiving a script for displaying the information.
- 1 14. A system as recited in claim 13, wherein the application program is further  
2 adapted to send a request to retrieve commands from the server for use with a  
3 playback device of one of the client apparatuses.
- 1 15. A system as recited in claim 14, wherein the playback device includes a  
2 digital video disc (DVD) player.
- 1 16. A system as recited in claim 14, wherein the commands are adapted to  
2 playback the event on the playback device simultaneous with the playback of  
3 the event on the remaining client apparatuses.
- 1 17. A system as recited in claim 14, wherein the command includes a start time  
2 when the playback of the event is to begin on each of the client apparatuses.
- 1 (a) 18. A system as recited in claim 13, wherein application program is a  
2 JAVA applet and the script is JavaScript.